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## Past Issues

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### Online Training Available:

<http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/>

### Pest Management in and Around Structures:

<http://www.eXtension.org/>

## School IPM Focus - Sealing the Building Envelope

In the **June 2013 Florida School IPM News**, we introduced the concept of sealing the **building envelope**. We provided educational tips on how to properly seal entry points including windows and doors. We will continue our focus on exclusion as an IPM tool. To review, the **building envelope** encompasses the conditioned air space of a building. In the context of a school, the parts of the building envelope that we are most concerned with are potential pest entry points such as windows, doors, ventilation points and places where the plumbing and electrical pipes go through the walls or the floor. This month's School IPM Focus highlights rodent exclusion in schools.



**We need your input!** At the start of the 2013-2014 school year, we will launch our "Fix the Building Envelope" campaign at the **Florida School Plant Management Association** meeting with several CEUs worth of training, starting Sept 9. Come and join us! Let us know what you think about the draft logo (right). Can you use it as an opportunity to promote the importance of facilities maintenance in human and environmental health? Want to assess your school's building health in terms of IPM? Use our Florida School IPM Checklist in the **Welcome Packet** on our website. We would welcome your thoughts on the logo and the 2013-2014 "Fix the Building Envelope" campaign. Email Faith with comments: [foi@ufl.edu](mailto:foi@ufl.edu)

## Rodent Exclusion

A successful rodent exclusion program works hand-in-hand with maintaining the building envelope. Rodents are known for exploiting any entry point into a building. This means mice are able to get through gaps as small as ¼ inch and young rats can enter with as little as ½ inch. Therefore, a thorough building inspection program, done regularly, is imperative in order to identify and seal potential rodent entry points. Below are some helpful tips on rodent exclusion methods.

### Exclusion Tips

- Use non-rusting metals for exterior exclusion such as Xcluder™, Stuf-Fit™, or CopperBlocker™ (not an endorsement) (Fig 1, 2)
- Do not use expanding foam as it can easily be chewed through and is not a sufficient stand-alone sealant to prevent against rodent entry
- Trim tree limbs that touch buildings to prevent rodent access to rooftops. Remember to pay special attention to rooftop openings (Fig 3)
- Sanitation greatly reduces likelihood of rodent infestations

- Reduce debris and foliage adjacent to buildings to reduce potential harborage sites
- It is important to ensure the materials chosen to seal entry points are in compliance with the State Requirements for Education Facilities (SREF) guidelines. To access these guidelines [click here](#).

**For more training on rodents, consider attending PMU's GHP Foundations course, Sept 25-27, 2013.**

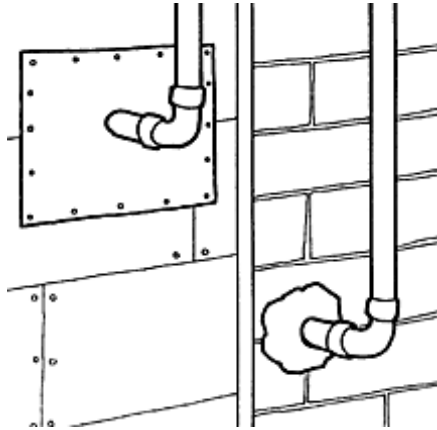


Fig 1. Sealing Plumbing Penetrations. Photo from: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg218>



Fig 2. Using non-corrosive materials from Xcluder™ to prevent rodents from gaining access to the interior of a building. Photo: <http://www.americanpest.net/images/inspect-for-mice-entry-points.jpg>

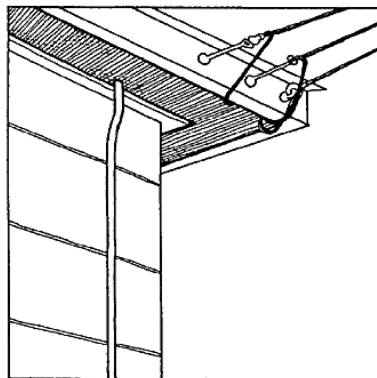


Fig 3. Rooftop openings rodent proofed where wires enter building. Photo:

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg218>

For more information on rodent exclusion click [here](#).

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## Get your CEUs today! Special School IPM Online Offerings

If you only need a couple of hours, try our online offerings:

**The ABCs of IPM** is available in **English** and **Spanish**. The ABCs of IPM video set is a comprehensive training program for school employees and anyone interested in the basics of IPM in schools.

CEUs: 2 CORE

Cost: \$20

Online, available anytime

### **Good Neighbor Practices**

This module will introduce you to the way we measure pesticide drift. Pesticide drift can happen when chemicals applied on one area move to another area. This movement can be the chemical as it is volatilizing or can be on dust particles that are being blown to another area. Once you learn about drift we will talk about people's perceptions of drift and how you can work to increase your communication with your neighbors and minimize the change of drift around schools. When you are finished watching the tutorial you will be given a 10 question quiz on the material. If you score an 80 on the quiz you will be able to print an FDACS CEU form that you can use the next time you renew your pesticide applicator license. If you do not score an 80 we would encourage you to review the module again and retake the quiz (for no additional charge).

CEUs: 1 CORE

Cost: \$10

Online, available anytime

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## Upcoming Training Opportunities

We are in the final offerings of PMU for the year. Sign up early before classes are full! Basics courses are only one day and a great way to meet part of the Florida Statute 482 requirement for 40 hours of training for new technicians! ***We highly recommend that anyone doing IPM in schools attend at least the GHP Foundations course to maintain your certification and understand how pest management can be done effectively.***

Classes cap at 20 participants, including Masters and Expert levels. Master level classes are only offered once a year. Expert level classes are offered every other year. If you plan on taking the **State Certified Operator examination** through PMU, please submit your applications by:

Sept 16 for the Oct 18 PMU **State Exam** for GHP

(Write **"PMU OCT GHP"** on the top line of the state application)

Oct 13 for the Nov 15 PMU **State Exam** for Termite and WDO  
(Write "**PMU NOV WDO**" on the top line of the state application)

### **Summary of hands-on courses:**

Click on highlighted course titles for more information or to register.

Sept 4-6, **Termite Foundations** (last one for 2013)

Sept 18-20, **Foundations of Turfgrass Pest Management**

Sept 25-27, **GHP Foundations** (last one for 2013)

Oct 2-4, **Foundations of Tree and Shrub Pest Management**

Nov 6-8, **Foundations of Turfgrass Pest Management**

*Must advance through Foundations to qualify for these courses:*

Oct 16-18; **GHP Masters**

Oct 18; 1 pm; GHP state exam (must also meet state requirement, write "PMU" on application)

Nov 13-15; **Termite Masters**

Nov 15; Termite and WDO exam (must also meet state requirement; write "PMU" on application)

Dec 18-20, **Master of Turfgrass Pest Management**

*Must advance through Foundations and Masters for qualify for this course*

Dec 4-6; GHP Expert

## **SEPTEMBER OFFERINGS**

### **Foundations of Termite Management 101**

Learn how termites exploit over 50 building construction elements and how to treat them in a hands-on environment in 2-days instead of 2 years.

- Practice doing a DACS vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS before a crisis occurs.
- Hear about the top 10 reasons technicians get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney.
- Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior as well as product label navigation. Class duration: 2.5 days.

**Date: Sept 4-6, 2013; W-F**

**Registration deadline: Aug 30, 2013; Friday**

**Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC**

**Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)**

**Cost: \$350**

**[Register here](#)**

### **Foundations of General Household Pest Management 101**

Pest control matters. Cockroach allergen mitigation can be achieved with IPM. Class duration: 2.5 days.

- Study domestic and peridomestic cockroach species and how to control them as well as rodent, small fly, filth fly, fire ant and nuisance ant management.
- Review the labels of commonly used GHP products, practice pest inspections at PMU's house and develop treatment strategies focused on IPM.
- Do a vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS.

**Date: Sept 25-27, 2013; W-F**

**Registration Deadline: Sept 20, 2013; Friday**

**Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC**

**Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)**

**Cost: \$350**

[Register here](#)

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## News!



We hope you will submit news items and would be happy to help you write a story if you have an idea but don't have the time to write up the information. We like to share news and video when it happens using our social media outlets- **Twitter**, **Facebook** and **YouTube**. When you send news we will post it on one or more of these sites and again in the monthly newsletter. Feel free to send news or announcements as soon as they happen and we will post them. We hope this will get you more visibility. Please send news items to **Michael Bentley**.

Visit our website for back issues of **Florida School IPM News**. You can scan the QR code on the right with your smart phone or tablet to get there faster. You will need a QR code reader!